

April

International Brotherhood of Magicians

HAPPY EARTH DAY!



THE Home of MAGIC in St. Louis

The SPIRIT | Official Newsletter of I.B.M. Ring 1
April 2022 Edition



Jonathan Levit Lecture

April 6, 2022

7pm Meeting

Dielmann Recreation Center

11400 Olde Cabin Rd

Creve Coeur, MO 63141



Our member, Silly Jilly, is on the front cover of the
Columbia Daily Tribune!

President's Message

Welcome to April 2022. The Spring is in the air, and I am thankful that the snow is gone! We have some really special events coming up. At the April 6th meeting, we have the pleasure of having Jonathan Levit lecture for our club. I would assume that most of you know that Jonathan is from St. Louis and his wonderful parents still live here. I met them recently at a Roundtable meeting. They are wonderful people. Let's help support one of St. Louis's finest magicians and welcome him with a big crowd. I have not had the pleasure of meeting Jonathan in person, so this will be a real treat for me. Our May meeting will be Stage Magic and we will have people performing and showing us Stage work. If you are interested in showing stage magic, please contact Terry Richison. In June we will be honored to have Sal Piacente to our meeting for a lecture. You won't want to miss any of these amazing meetings.




It looks like we will have a Fall Show this year in October. This gives you time to plan an act. We would love to have a lot of participation. If you don't want to perform, hopefully you can help with the show. We will also need help selling tickets.

Don't forget that the Senior Tour Convention in Collinsville, IL, will be April 1-3. This will be an amazing convention in our own backyard. It will not only be an amazing convention, but many of us will be hanging out before and after the shows, going to meals together, and jamming on magic! The talent will be hanging with us, too. This doesn't happen very often.

There has been so much new magic released in the last few months that I just can't imagine trying to buy everything. There are many older tricks that have been out of stock for a while, like Alpha Deck, that has recently been reproduced and back in stock. For some reason, manufacturers are producing less of their products, and this creates a frenzy. Otherwise, you must wait for the second run. This can take a couple months. I don't understand the logic in this way of doing business, but it must be working because it does not appear to be changing.

If you did not know, we will be getting a new magic shop in High Ridge. It will be owned by Eric Bousworth. Eric worked at Gibbol's for over 10 years and has a lot of experience. He knows magic and will have classes as well as many other things you would expect from a full-service magic shop. I believe he is expecting to open April 30th. We should get a bunch of us together to show up for the grand opening and help get him started.

If anyone has any thoughts or ideas for a meeting or fundraiser, please bring it to my attention. Something that most of us are not



keen on thinking about is our thoughts after we are gone. If you have a will, consider leaving something to the club. It could be your magic or books, or \$100 or more. I want more than anything to make sure our club prospers after I am gone. If you know any young people or have ideas how to bring them to the club, please let me know.

I am working with Steve Zuehlke to get a booth at a few fairs over the summer where we can sell simple magic tricks and teach people how to do them in hopes to get people interested in the club. Please let me know if you are willing to help.

See you April 6th at Jonathan Levit's lecture!

Scott Smith
President
I.B.M. Ring 1
scott@plato.com
618-610-5947

Ring 1 Report


by Sandy Weis et al.

The theme for the March meeting was Children's Magic. There were approximately fifteen members present, and they were all really interested in this topic. Terry Richison reminded members to email Al Zibits if they are interested in running for an office or would like to be a board member.

Josh Weidner presented the first effect. He performs for adults but modified an adult effect so it would engage children. He named it *The Ambitious Card Trick for Kids*. He had a member pretend they were a child and asked him if he had any pets. The volunteer had a dog, so Josh had the volunteer draw a picture of his dog on a card. Every time the volunteer called his dog, the card would magically appear. However, when Josh called the dog, the card did not come to him. It was a really clever effect! Josh made sure to tell the members that this is the only children's magic effect he knows; however, the Ring believes that Josh could adapt other effects he performs so they would appeal to children. Great job, Josh!

Randy Kalin presented several effects. Randy is one of the Ring's most experienced Children's Magicians. For those who do not know, Randy performed as one of the Ronald McDonalds for over thirty-five years. He even helped to create scripts for the other Ronalds to use in their presentations. However, McDonald's decided they were no longer going to promote their business using Ronald so Randy no longer works as Ronald McDonald (as well as the other Ronalds in the world). However, he still entertains both adults and children as a magician. (My own children grew up loving Ronald. They always wanted to attend shows Ronald was presenting at. However, my grandchildren will not get this opportunity to see such wonderful shows). Randy shared that, when presenting magic to children, the magician needs to have fun, have lots of energy, and have the ability to entertain at their level. One of his favorite books that he recommends is "Seriously Silly" by David Kay. He also suggested Danny Orleans as another "top" magician if one wants to learn Children's Magic. Randy recommends that the magician know his/her audience. Before the show, he recommends to observe the audience to see who would be a "good" candidate to assist the magician. He also shared that 3 to 6 year olds like silly, goofy colors, 6 to 9 year olds like storyline presentations, and 10 and up want "real" magic. With practice and creativity, most tricks can be geared to any age level. He shared his presentations of the magic coloring book, 3 card montis (using caps instead of cards) and the cut and restored rope using the multiplying wands. He also performed an effect combining the silk to egg routine with a Clatter Box. The members really enjoyed his presentation. Thanks, Randy, for the excellent presentation!

Jill "Silly Jill" Schmidt shared several routines that she regularly performs. She usually performs as a clown and also is one of the best balloon twisters in the area. Several months ago, Silly Jill submitted input describing her routines which were included in the Ring Report. However, it was really exciting to see her perform these routines. She learned, but revised, these routines from Christopher T. Magician. She used a mirror drop down box to make a regular sized whoopee cushion "grow", not "go". Magically, the whoopee cushion turned into a 5-foot whoopee cushion. Wow! It is so big that she can let 12 children sit on it. She had this cushion custom made. The



members were all taking videos of her sitting on it when she let the air out (and what a loud sound it made!). At the time she purchased it, she only paid \$90 for it. What a bargain! And she uses it over and over again. The manufacturer informed her that the largest whoopee cushion they manufactured was 25 feet. Unbelievable! If one follows Jill on Facebook, one will see that she is on the cover of the Columbia Daily Tribune dressed as a clown and also wearing balloons. She was in Columbia, MO, at a parade promoting the annual True/False Film Fest. Way to go! Jill also shared that in 2014 her mom and her dressed up for this parade as a magician and a rabbit in a hat.



Terry Richison shared several tips/suggestions for presenting magic to children. Most children magicians feel 25 to 30 minutes is the right amount of time for a presentation. However, Terry feels one can even present a children's show for an hour if they can engage the children. Terry always uses music in his shows and presents in a very professional way. He only performs for children 5 and up. An experienced magician can present the same show to children and adults; one just needs to change the patter. He recommends not to play down to children, play up to them. This will keep them interested. Also, he recommends that the magician use a theme in their act so the magic is tied together.

The members really enjoyed all of these presentations. Members had several questions to ask the performers about their presentations. The members present were truly interested in learning more about children's magic.

Chad Jacobs (Chef Bananas) shared that he presented a Purim show at Congregation Shaare Emeth. In the show, he did an amazing routine using a dove pan where he turned pictures of hamantaschen into real ones. The kids went crazy! The word Haman was said in his show multiple times, too. Every time he did it, the crowd boomed. That's traditionally what one does during Purim every time someone says the name of the antagonist (Haman). He shared that it was really great and hopes they will have him back next year. He was on that same stage thirty-three years ago when he had his religious confirmation and thirty-six years ago having a bar mitzvah. (He probably never thought he would



be back on that same stage performing as a magician!)

Dan Todd has not been able to attend Ring 1's meetings due to conflicts in his schedule. However, he is still actively involved in magic. He shared that, before the pandemic, he taught and played chess at St. Louis Children's Hospital in the game room for three hours every Wednesday. He also performed magic every other week on their CCTV. The children were able to watch from their room or from a large TV in the game room. On occasion, they had Dan teach/play chess on the other days in patients' rooms, when requested. He also performed at Shriners Hospital several times a year, representing Ring 1's Healing Powers of Magic. He shared that he is beginning to have bookings again. He will perform on the CCTV channel at Children's Hospital again on the first Friday of each month. He added that this will start on April 1st, and it's no joke. He is still teaching a chess class at Cardinal Glennon Hospital and also volunteers at the hospitals. He teaches chess live and online. Chess magic is still in demand at the end of the chess classes. Dan has been quite busy entertaining children in these hospitals. Hopefully, Dan's schedule will change in the near future so he can again attend magic meetings and activities.

The members are looking forward to the in-person lecture on April 6th featuring Jonathan Levit. He was an active member of Ring 1 while he was growing up. Several of the members know him quite well.

Tarbell

The Tarbell Course in Magic is a notable encyclopedia of magic amongst professional and amateur magicians. It has eight volumes: The first five were part of the original home-study correspondence course compiled in 1928 by Dr. Harlan Tarbell. The remaining three volumes were added later on.

You can find a copy here:

<https://cdn.preterhuman.net/texts/manuals/magic/Harlan%20Tarbell%20-%20The%20Original%20Course%20in%20Magic%20of%20Harlan%20Tarbell.pdf>

Jonathan Levit Lecture

April 6, 2022, at 7pm
Dielmann Recreation Center
11400 Olde Cabin Rd
Creve Coeur, MO 63141

Jonathan's career as a magician, actor, television host, magic consultant, and producer spans nearly 40 years. He has graced the covers, multiple times, of Magic Magazine and Genii Magazine – the premiere publications in the magic world.



Levit is highly respected in all areas of magic, including sleight of hand, mentalism, and magic history, where his work alongside Neil Patrick Harris and his re-creation on stage as Howard Thurston has gained him respect amongst his peers.

In addition to performing throughout the world and on every continent (including Antarctica), Jonathan regularly offers lectures to magicians, discussing method, performance, and psychology. He has acted as host and emcee for “MagicLive!” — the premiere magic convention in the world — in front of thousands of magicians gathering in Las Vegas.

Join Ring 1 on April 6th for Jonathan's in-person lecture ... you will remember this night!

Pay Ring 1 Dues for Calendar Year 2022

Annual membership is \$15 and is a bargain, considering our lineup of performers, lecturers, and activities! If any of your contact information has changed, please let Alan Zibits know at alan.a.zibits@boeing.com.

To pay online: <http://www.ibmring1.com/dues-payments>

To pay by mail: Write a check payable to “IBM, Ring 1” for \$15. Write “2022 Dues” on the memo line. Mail the check to Sandy Weis, 1755 Elkins Drive, St. Louis, MO 63136.

**Time to pay your
I.B.M. Ring 1 Dues!**

Simple and Easy!

**Click Here to go to the
I.B.M. Ring 1 Website**

Pay by Credit Card, Paypal

or

Send a check to:

Sandy Weis

1755 Elkins Drive

St. Louis, MO 63136

You can pay with loose change!



Volunteer for Shriner's

Volunteer to perform either by streaming with Zoom and/or creating a short video of performing one or two simple effects. It also works if you want to teach one or two effects that kids can perform. Contact D. Jay at djay1000@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Events

I.B.M. Ring 1, and other events nearby St. Louis (US Central time)

Date	Event	Type
Apr 1-3, 2022	The Senior Tour (conference)	In person
Apr 6, 2022, 7pm	Jonathan Levit lecture	In person
May 4, 2022	Stage Magic with Terry Richison	In person
Jun 1, 2022	Sal Piacente Lecture	In person

All members are welcome and encouraged to attend all of the events, including board meetings.

Magic Conventions

<https://www.themagicwordpodcast.com/magic-convention-guide>

Remember to contact Scott Smith if you are attending the I.B.M. National Convention in Atlanta in July.



APRIL 1 - 3, 2022

ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

THE SENIOR TOUR

A MINI CONVENTION SHOWCASING DECADES
OF CLOSE-UP MAGIC EXPERTISE

April 1 - 3, 2022

stlsteve2009@yahoo.com

\$150.00 PER PERSON
Limited TO 150 registrants

**LOCATION: THE DOUBLE
TREE by HILTON**

1000 Eastport Plaza Dr.
Collinsville, IL 62234
618-345-2800

*Mention "Senior Tour" for
special room rate; \$109
including breakfast for two*

FEATURING

ALLAN ACKERMAN
BILL GOODWIN
STEVE REYNOLDS
MIKE POWERS
JIMMY "CARDS"
MOLINARI
CHRIS KORN
DOUG CONN
HOWARD HAMBURG

GUESTS OF HONOR

HARRY &
TRUDY MONTI

More Info To Come!



SCAN ME

SHOWS, LECTURES, PANEL DISCUSSION, INTERVIEWS

For More info: <https://www.baskervilleproductions.com/seniortour>

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